

TSLAC Update – Current status and future outlook for TSLAC and Texas libraries

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Gloria Meraz, Assistant State Librarian
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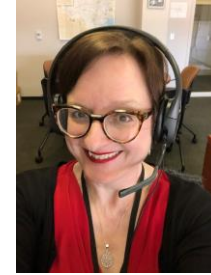
Introductions



Mark Smith, State Librarian



Gloria Meraz, Asst. State Librarian



Jennifer Peters, LDN
Director



Naomi DiTullio,
Distance Learning



Henry Stokes,
Library Technology



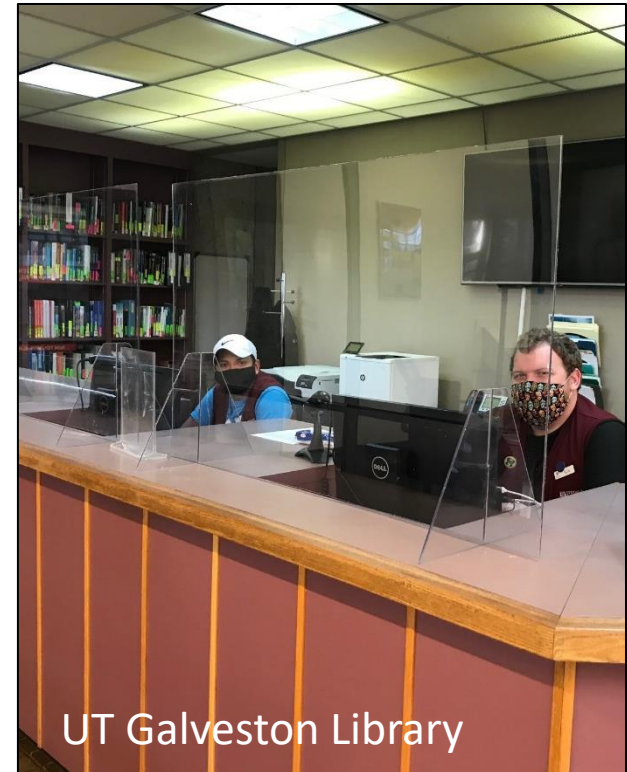
Laura Tadena,
Inclusive Services

Tomás Mendez,
CE Support



State of Texas Libraries

- Weirdest. Year. Ever.
(and on it goes)
- Many libraries still closed,
most offering reduced services
- Pandemic outlook: not good
- Budget outlook: uncertain



And yet. . .libraries transcend

- New and adapted services
 - Online programming
 - Curbside & other pandemic responses
 - More e-resources
 - Wifi expansion
- Libraries don't have to be open to be essential



TSLAC Response

- Information
- Tools and resources
- TSLAC CARES Grants
- Accreditation flexibility
- Budget request
 - Texas Needs Strong Libraries
 - \$3.75 million
 - Broadband, digital literacy, remote access



Lessons so far

- In times of crisis, people turn to libraries
- Remote work and study will continue – libraries must be prepared
- Importance of broadband and connectivity
- Libraries are natural leaders for changes in workforce support



What's Ahead...



- Texas 87th Legislature
- National Priorities
- Budgeting

...dealing with the short term and
the long haul



What matters to people?



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- Accessibility and Inclusion
- Flexibility
- Safety
- Activism
- Trust and Truth
- Connectedness



Libraries going forward



- The public has missed us!
- Federal policy recognized the value of supporting libraries.
- We have learned a great deal.
- Communities and institutions are at a unique opportunity to reposition themselves.
- What will our message be in a post-COVID world?



Jennifer Peters, LDN director

Highlights from Library Development and Networking

<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ldn>

- Summer Reading
- Accreditation Update
- E-Read Texas
- Texas Great Read
- Texas Free Wifi Map
- CARES Act Grants
- COVID Opening Survey
- Grant opportunities



Resources for Library Workers

TSLAC Plan for Services During COVID-19 Health Situation:

<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/services>

COVID-19 Information and Resources for Librarians:

<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ldn/covid-19>

COVID-19 Resource Information Disability Information & Referral Center (DIRC):

<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/tbp/dirc/covidinfo/html>



Your Questions

Please share with us your ideas,
questions, concerns, needs, etc.



Thank you!

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